Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 07017 01 OF 02 142029Z

67
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /057 W
---------- 019365
R 141647Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WAHDC 1086
INFO DIA
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ROME 7017

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJECT: CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS PRESENT CAMPAIGN PLATFORM

SUMMARY: THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DC) NATIONAL COUNCIL MAY 12 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED PARTY'S ELECTORAL PROGRAM FOR IMPORTANT JUNE 15 REGIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS. PROGRAM WORKED OUT IN COURSE OF DC NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND PARTY REGIONAL GATHERINGS IN RECENT WEEKS. IT EMPHASIZES GREATER DECENTRALIZATION OF DECISION MAKING IN FAVOR OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND CALLS FOR FORMATION OF STRONG, DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY OPPOSED TO FASCISM AND ANY COMPROMISE WITH COMMUNISM. FOUR-FIFTHS NATIONAL COUNCIL MAJORITY (LEFT ABSTAINING) ALSO APPROVED POLICY SPEECH OF PARTY SECRETARY FANFANI EMPHASIZING OPPOSITION TO HISTORIC COMPROMISE WITH COMMUNISTS (PCI) AND LEAVING DOOR OPEN TO POSSIBILITY OF FIVE-PARTY MAJORITY INCLUDING LIBERALS. ALTHOUGH PARTY FACTION LED BY PREMIER MORO VOTED TO APPROVED FANFANI LINE, MORO HIMSELF EMPHASIZED BELIEF THAT CENTER-LEFT REMAINS MOST DESIRABLE GOVERNMENTAL FORMULA AVAILABLE. ORGANIZATIONAL MOBILIZATION WITHIN DC LEADING UP TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND MAY 12 COUNCIL MEETING HAVE PUT PARTY IN BETTER THAN EXPECTED FIGHTING TRIM TO FACE JUNE 15 ELECTIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. A PERIOD OF INTENSE ORGANIZATIONAL MOBILIZATION BY CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, INCLUDING FOUR MAJOR REGIONAL ELECTORAL AS-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 07017 01 OF 02 142029Z

SEMBLIES, CULMINATED IN MAY 9-11 CONSULTATIVE NATIONAL ASSEM-

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

BLY AND FOLLOW-UP NATIONAL COUNCIL SESSION TO RATIFY THE PARTY'S ELECTORAL PLATFORM AND STRATEGY. NATIONAL COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY VOTED ELECTORAL PLATFORM PRODUCED BY ASSEMBLY AND SUPPORTED POLICY LINE OF PARTY SECRETARY FANFANI BY FOUR-FIFTHS MAJORITY. PARTY LEFT WING ABSTAINED RATHER THAN VOTE AGAINST FANFANI IN MIDST OF ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN.

2. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRODUCED ELECTORAL PLATFORM AIMED SPECIFICALLY AT REGIONAL AND LOCAL ISSUES. DC PLEDGED SUPPORT FOR CAREFULLY COORDINATED EXTENSION OF LOCAL DECISION MAKING POWERS AT ALL LEVELS. PLATFORM CONTAINED SOMETHING FOR EVERY GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL AND GROUP, BUT MADE NO DRAMATIC PROPOSALS OR POLICY CHANGES. ALTHOUGH REGIONAL ASSEMBLIES LEADING UP TO NATIONAL GATHERING ADDRESSED BY HIGH LEVEL SPEAKERS AND CHARACTERIZED BY SERIOUS AND SOMETIMES SCHOLARLY APPROACH TO PROBLEMS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, MEETINGS PRIMARILY SERVED TO INFORM AND MOBILIZE PARTY CADRES RATHER THAN APPEAL DIRECTLY TO ELECTORATE. MOST SIGNIFICANT NATIONAL POLICY ELEMENT IN ASSEMBLY DOCUMENT, VOTED ALSO BY PARTY LEFT, CALLED FOR DEMOCRATIC LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL MAJORITIES OPPOSED TO FASCISM AND CLOSED TO "ANY COMPROMISE" WITH COMMUNISM.

3. FANFANI POLICY SPEECH TO MAY 12 NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MESHED NEATLY WITH DC'S "CENTRIST" ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN AIMED AT WINNING A MAXIMUM CONSENSUS FROM WITHIN THE MODERATE ELECTORATE AND ENCOURAGING DEFECTIONS FROM CONSERVATIVE AND FAR RIGHT RANKS. IN THIS VEIN, FANFANI CALLED FOR A CHANGE FROM THE PRESENT GOVERNMENTAL FORMULA TO A MORE "STABLE, SOLID, ORGANIC AND SOCIALLY ADVANCED" MAJORITY MADE UP OF ALL DEMOCRATIC FORCES OPPOSED TO FASCISM AND NOT OPEN TO THE "HISTOM HAVING EARLIER INVOKED
COLLABORATION OF THOSE PARTIES WITH WHOM THE DC HAS WORKED OVER THE PAST "DECADES," FANFANI CLEARLY LEFT THE WAY OPEN (IN PRINCIPLE) FOR ENTRY OF THE LIBERAL PARTY INTO A FUTURE GOVERNMENTAL MAJORITY. FANFANI EMPHASIZED THAT DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY DC SEEKS MUST APPLY AT BOTH THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS.

4. FANFANI ALSO REITERATED PARTY MAJORITY POSITION OPPOSED TO "PREFERENTIAL RELATIONSHIP" WITH SOCIALIST PARTY. COOP-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

ERATION AMONG DEMOCRATIC PARTIES MUST RATHER BE BASED UPON THEIR RESPECTIVE ELECTORAL STRENGTHS. IN ADDITION, NO "ALLY" IN THIS NEW GOVERNMENTAL ACCORD CAN SUBORDINATE ITS SUPPORT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF OTHER POLITICAL, LABOR OR SOCIAL GROUPINGS. THIS SAID, HOWEVER, FANFANI LEFT OPEN POSSIBILITY OF "ADDITIONAL RECOGNITION" TO PARTIES (I.E., SOCIALISTS) ABLE TO PROMOTE COALITION OBJECTIVES BY "ATTENUATING POPULAR OBSTACLES" SET IN THEIR PATH (PRESUMABLY BY PCI).

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

5. SPEAKING TO INTERNATIONAL THEMES, FANFANI SPECIFIED THAT FUTURE UNDERSTANDING AMONG DEMOCRATIC PARTIES MUST BE BASED ON SUPPORT FOR EUROPEAN UNITY AND "DEFENSE AND SECURITY AMONG THE ALLIES OF THE ATLANTIC PACT."

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 07017 02 OF 02 142035Z

67
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /057 W
---------- 019494
R 141647Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1087
INFO DIA
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ROME 7017

6. ALTHOUGH HIS FACTION VOTED TO APPROVE PARTY POLICY AS OUTLINED BY PARTY SECRETARY, PREMIER MORO IN SPEECH TO DC NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DIFFERENTIATED HIMSELF SOMEWHAT FROM THE FANFANI LINE ON FUTURE GOVERNING MAJORITIES. MORO EMPHASIZED HIS BELIEF THAT THE CENTER-LEFT CONTINUES TO REPRESENT THE MOST DESIRABLE GOVERNMENTAL FORMULA AVAILABLE. HEWING CAREFULLY, HOWEVER, TO PREVIOUSLY ENUNCIATED DC POLICY, MORO STATED THAT THIS MAJORITY SHOULD BE THE SAME AT BOTH THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS.

7. REACTION TO FANFANI SPEECH BY PCI AND SOCIALIST PARTY WERE SHARPLY NEGATIVE. LEADERS IN BOTH PARTIES ACCUSED FANFANI OF ATTEMPTING TO RETURN TO CENTRISM WITH GOVERNMENT INCLUDING LIBERAL PARTY. SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, ON OTHER HAND, EXPRESSED PERPLEXITY REGARDING COMPATIBILITY OF ELEMENTS IN FIVE-PARTY FORMULA AND HINT REGARDING POSSIBILITY OF PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR SOCIALISTS. REPUBLICANS GENERALLY FAVORABLE TO DC POLICY ENUNCIATION, BUT IMPLIED PREFERENCE FOR CONTINUATION OF PRESENT CENTER-LEFT COALITION. PREDICTABLY, LIBERAL PARTY SPOKESMAN EXPRESSED CLEAREST SATISFACTION WITH FANFANI STATEMENT.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

8. COMMENT: THE DC, AS A VOTE HARVESTING MACHINE, AND THE POSITION OF FANFANI AS PARTY SECRETARY EMERGE REINFORCED FROM THE RECENT SERIES OF ELECTORAL MOBILIZATION MEETINGS. THE PARTY HAS PRODUCED A RESPECTABLE PLATFORM DEALING WITH THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 07017 02 OF 02 142035Z

NEEDS OF THE LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS AS WELL AS A VIGOROUS POLITICAL PROGRAM WELL DESIGNED TO APPEAL TO ITS TRADITIONAL, MODERATE ELECTORATE. IN ADDITION, ALTHOUGH THESE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS WERE DIRECTED MORE AT CADRE THAN THE ELECTORATE, IT HAS PROJECTED THE IMAGE OF A PARTY ABLE TO "PULL UP ITS SOCKS" FROM AN ORGANIZATIONAL POINT OF VIEW. CRITICS CAN REASONABLY ARGUE THAT PRE-ELECTORAL FITS OF ORGANIZATIONAL VIGOR CANNOT SUBSTITUTE FOR NEW IDEAS AND NEW NATIONAL LEADERS. HOWEVER, AIDED BY EVENTS IN PORTUGAL AND PUBLIC PREOCCUPATION WITH LAW AND ORDER, THE DC HAS THUS FAR CONDUCTED AN INTELLIGENT AND EFFECTIVE CAMPAIGN WHICH HAS PROBABLY ALREADY REDUCED ITS POTENTIAL LOSSES. VOLPE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS, PARTY FACTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ROME07017
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750169-0856
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750553/aaaabvwa.tel
Line Count: 192
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS PRESENT CAMPAIGN PLATFORM SUMMARY: THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DC) NATIONAL COUN-
TAGS: PINT, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006